

VFW *The Veterans' Voice*

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

November 2021-Vol. 19 No.11

Edmonds VFW Post 8870

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Post Calendar

Staff Meeting: First Wed., **4:30 PM American Legion Hall (or online via Zoom)**

Post Meetings: Third Wed., **6:00 PM American Legion Hall (or online via Zoom)**

Post Auxiliary Meeting: (Questions: call or email Jo Boyett, 206-818-4212, joaboyett@cs.com)

Post meetings are again being held in person at the Edmonds American Legion Hall (or online via "Zoom")

(Look for invitations with the link from which to join the meeting via Zoom in your email.)

Masks are optional for vaccinated members for in-person attendance, Light snacks will be provided

November Post meeting - Planning for December Post Mtg Christmas Party

Veterans Day Buddy Poppies

After a two year absence, members of VFW Post 8870 distributed Buddy Poppies at three store locations: QFC Westgate in Edmonds, QFC Speedway in Mukilteo and Town & Country Market in Mill Creek on Friday & Saturday, November 5-6.



We were well received at all three locations, though participation by the membership was light and we could have used another two dozen or more volunteers spread among the three locations and include a fourth store that was available to us.

Our efforts produced a total of \$ 11,815 of which \$ 4,654 came from Mukilteo, \$ 3,621 from Mill Creek and \$ 3,540 out of Edmonds. (Plus a bottle of wine to be auctioned at the Post meeting)

A good result, all things considered, though it leaves us about \$ 4,000 below our hoped for Relief Fund Budget for the coming year.

continued 'Poppies' p.2

"Poppies" continued

Perhaps some of you may be able to make a special donation of your own, to help us make up the shortfall from our Veterans Day outing, especially those of you who were unable to participate on November 5 & 6, or were simply not yet comfortable with being out in the public to that extent. A few dollars here and there could make all the difference. Meanwhile, we hope to see you all at the November Post meeting.

Following are the members who participated in this year's Buddy Poppy drive:

John Shelton
Les Abel
Dan Doyle
Carl Kurfess
Al & Jo Boyett
Charlie Gaul
Rose & Alden Gilliland
Herb Bender
Dick Harsin
Robert Little

Jim & Terry Traner
Nathan Wortinger
Duane Bowman
Mike & Linda Denton
Calvin Barnard
Jim & Linda Blosssey
Robert Low
Dan White
Bill Fox
Parnia Parvini

This stalwart group of 24 individuals staffed two tables at each of three stores in four shifts over the two days!

**Veterans Day Observance at the
Edmonds Veterans Plaza**

About 75 Veterans and friends attended our informal observance of the Day at the Edmonds Veterans Plaza at the usual 11:00 A.M time of November 11, recognizing both Veterans Day and the day and hour of the signing of the armistice ending World War I in 1918.

Dan Doyle, Our Post Chaplain said a few appropriate words and Commander Kurfess oversaw the distribution of a new pin recognizing the widows of deceased Vietnam Veterans as well as Vietnam Veteran recognition pins to those who had not yet received them. The worst of the rain held off until after the ceremony.



October Post Meeting

October Meeting Speaker: **Mark Emiley, Project Healing Waters**

Mark Emiley (pictured at right) presented a very comprehensive Power Point Presentation on “Project



Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc., which is dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans through fly fishing and associated activities, including education and outings.

Local programs are to be found at JBLM, in Seattle, at American Lake and in Kitsap County.

Participation is open to any veteran with a service connected disability.

Ongoing core program activities include:

- Fly Tying - 5072 classes in 2019
- Casting - 1,685 classes
- Fly Rod Building - 1,552 classes
- Fishing Outings - 1,694 outings



Christmas Toy Collection at Teri's Toybox

Since we are (again) going to be unable to hold our usual joint Legion/VFW Christmas party, we have arranged to collect toys at Teri's Toybox in downtown Edmonds. Teri Soelter, store owner assures us that this program is a win-win for her and the toy drive and is happy to participate once again. By the time you receive this newsletter, Commander Carl Kurfess will have dropped the appropriately decorated and labeled box off at the store.

We encourage everyone to drop by the store, purchase a toy and drop it in the box. We will collect the toys periodically between now and the pre-Christmas deadline, for delivery to the United Methodist Church, where the Edmonds Food Bank distributes toys for needy children. This was a very successful drive last year which we hope to repeat. (At right is Past Commander Mike Denton with Teri Soelter at the beginning of the 2020 toy drive)

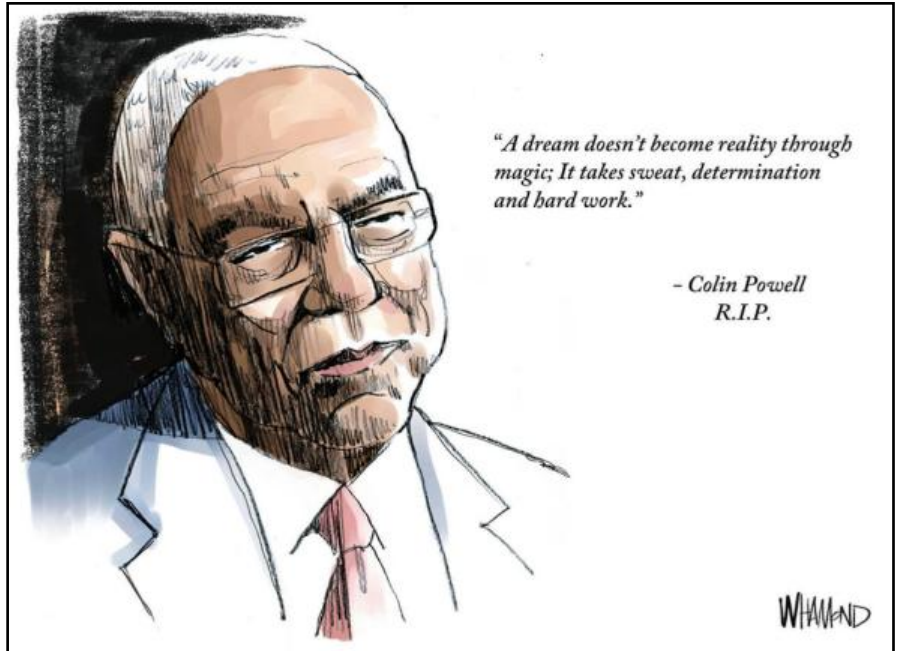


In Memoriam

General Colin Powell 1937-2021

He once said of himself, “Powell is a problem-solver. He was taught as a soldier to solve problems. So he has views, but he’s not an ideologue. He has passion, but he’s not a fanatic. He’s first and foremost a problem-solver.”

Powell, who grew up in New York City, the son of Jamaican immigrants, served in the Army for 35 years. He was a man of many firsts: He was the first Black national security adviser, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Secretary of State.



Military Trivia

by Carl Kurfess

Can you identify this USMC Equipment?



The Bell AH-1 Super Cobra is a twin engine attack helicopter based on the U. S. Army's single engine AH-1-Cobra.

Cost is \$ 10.7 million, speed 190 knots (218 mph) with a range of 365 miles.

The AH-1 series, the backbone of the U.S. Marine's attack helicopter fleet since 1971, is being replace by the next generation Bell AH-1Z "Viper" attack helicopter.



From the Bookshelf

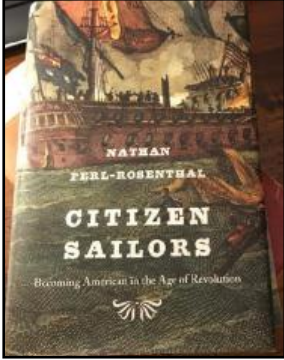
by Fred Apgar

Citizen Sailors

By Nathan Perl-Rosenthal

In his book, Citizen Sailors, Nathan Perl-Rosenthal discusses the creation of American citizenship among mariners in post-revolution America.

Prior to the creation of the United States, the concept of citizenship was not a major issue among seafaring nations. It was merely assumed that a mariner's birthplace, spoken language, and country to which they were a subject, determined their nationality. However, the emergence of America as a sea power changed that assumption, which created an entirely different view of sovereignty and citizenship. America defended the right of British seamen, as well as mariners from other nations, to become American citizens. However, it was England's view that once an individual was a British subject, they would remain so for the rest of their lives.



Following the French Revolution in the early 1790's, France and Great Britain went to war. America declared its neutrality and continued to trade with both. However, because of the ambiguity of determining citizenship, American sailors fell victim to both the English and French navies. Claiming them to be the enemy,

American ships, cargoes, and crews were seized by both England and France as well as the numerous privateers, of both countries. Thanks to Perl-Rosenthal's exhaustive research, readers are provided with a marvelous insight and details into the work of the privateers, impressment of American mariners, and attempts of Admiralty Courts to render "fair" decisions.

The final chapter of the book details America's response to Great Britain's violations against its sovereignty. The impressment of American mariners became a national issue, and congressional legislation authorized the production of certificates of citizenship and the registration of American mariners. Interestingly, among the more than 100,000 sailors whose citizenship was protected through the registration process were more than 1800 black sailors. Unfortunately, their equal status as American citizens would fall victim to rising racism after the War of 1812. While a cumbersome process at the outset, in time, such documentation became accepted and standardized among seafaring nations.

Edmonds Waterfront Center Flag Pole

In the October newsletter you will recall a photo and short article about the purchase and presentation of a flag for the Edmonds Waterfront Center by VFW Post 8870 Auxilliary.



That flag will be flown from the flagpole donated by three veterans organizations, among others. Ron Clyborne sent us this photo of the plaque (shown at right) announcing the dedication of the flag plaza at the EWC to "Honor all Veterans".

